Reviewer's report

Title: Analysis of oral cancer epidemiology in the US reveals state-specific trends: implications for oral cancer prevention.

Version: 2 Date: 25 May 2007

Reviewer: Ahmedin Jemal

Reviewer's report:

General
I think it is little bit difficult to follow this paper. The background is all over the map. The authors provide results in this section (background) instead of setting the stage for the paper. There are some factual errors in description of the cancer surveillance data/system in the U.S. Further, 5 years time interval is too short to examine temporal trends in cancer rates. The descriptions about the methods are not quite accurate.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

as above

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

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What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.